

Message Text

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44

ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 AF-06 EUR-12 IO-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00

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FM AMEMBASSY RABAT

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5710

INFO AMEMBASSY ACCRA

AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA

AMEMBASSY ALGIERS

AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

AMEMBASSY CONAKRY

AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM

AMEMBASSY KINSHASA

AMEMBASSY LISBON

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY LUANDA

AMEMBASSY LUSAKA

AMEMBASSY LAGOS

AMEMBASSY MADRID

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AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI

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TAGS: PFOR, PORG, PINS, AO, CF, FR, FT, MO, RH, SF, SS

SUBJECT: OAU LIBERATION COMMITTEE ENDS 25TH SESSION

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REF: RABAT 2817

1. SUMMARY: FINAL MEETINGS OF OAU LIBERATION COMMITTEE'S 25TH SESSION WHICH ENDED JUNE 15, APPARENTLY BROKE LITTLE NEW GROUND. ANGOLAN SITUATION REMAINED COMMITTEE'S CENTRAL CONCERN, BUT NO PROGRESS TOWARD A SOLUTION OF THIS PROBLEM APPEARS TO HAVE BEEN MADE. OTHER QUESTIONS ALREADY TREATED AMPLIFIED SLIGHTLY. COMMITTEE'S WEAK RESOLUTION ON SPANISH SAHARA PROBABLY DISAPPOINTED MOROCCANS, BUT WE DOUBT GOM EXPECTED MORE SUPPORT ON THIS QUESTION. END SUMMARY.

2. OAU LIBERATION COMMITTEE CONCLUDED ITS FINAL SESSION AT 0430 JUNE 15 AFTER ALL NIGHT MEETING DEVOTED TO PREPARATION OF GENERAL REPORT (APPARENTLY IN LIEU OF SPECIFIC RESOLUTIONS) FOR CONSIDERATION AT KAMPALA SUMMIT. SPANISH SAHARA WAS SUBJECT OF THE ONLY FORMAL RESOLUTION WE KNOW OF, ALTHOUGH OTHER TOPICS WERE SLIGHTLY AMPLIFIED UPON IN PRESS REPORTS.

3. ANGOLA: MOROCCAN FONMIN LARAKI, WHO CHAIRED SESSION, EXPRESSED HOPE IN HIS CLOSING REMARKS THAT DIFFICULTIES BETWEEN ANGOLAN LIBERATION GROUPS WOULD BE RESOLVED DURING LEADERS' MEETING IN NAIROBI. DIPLOMATIC SOURCE CONFIRMED PRIVATELY THAT LIBERATION COMMITTEE HAD BEEN ABLE TO MAKE NO PROGRESS TOWARD CONCILIATION.

4. SOUTH AFRICA: ACCORDING TO PRESS REPORTS, COMMITTEE WAS UNWILLING TO ACCEPT RESOLUTION, INTRODUCED BY AN UNNAMED MEMBER, TO CONSIDER SOUTH AFRICA OFFICIALLY AS COLONIZED TERRITORY RATHER THAN AS INDEPENDENT STATE.

5. FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE: PRESS ACCOUNTS SAY COMMITTEE EXAMINED POSSIBILITY OF GRANTING EMERGENCY ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE TO PORTUGUESE COLONIES SOON TO BE INDEPENDENT, BUT CAUTIONED THAT THEY SHOULD NOT EXPECT TOO MUCH. REPORTEDLY, COMMITTEE'S VIEW WAS THAT ECONOMIC PROBLEMS OF THESE COUNTRIES AND THIRD WORLD IN GENERAL MUST BE SOLVED BY RADICAL CHANGE IN PRINCIPLES AND PHILOSOPHY OF ARCHAIC ECONOMIC SYSTEM INHERITED FROM PAST. FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE TO SOUTH AFRICAN LIBERATION MOVEMENT ALSO AGREED UPON BUT NO FIGURES PUBLISHED.

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6. MILITARY TRAINING: PRESS REPORTED COMMITTEE EXPRESSED SATISFACTION WITH TRAINING FACILITIES FOR NAMIBIAN AND RHODESIAN GUERRILLAS IN MEMBER COUNTRIES. REPORTS SAY AID TO FRELIMO WILL CONTINUE, BUT COMMITTEE POSTPONED EXAMINATION OF FNLA REQUEST FOR ASSISTANCE TOTURN ITS FORCES INTO REGULAR ARMY IN VIEW OF INTERNECINE CONFLICTS IN ANGOLA.

7. OAU BRANCH OFFICE: ACCORDING TO PRESS REPORTS, COMMITTEE

PROPOSED MOGADISCIO AS SITE FOR BRANCH OFFICE, PENDING SUBSEQUENT APPROVAL BY KAMPALA SUMMIT. OFFICE OSTENSIBLY WILL COORDINATE DJIBOUTI "LIBERATION STRUGGLE". CONFERENCE REPORTEDLY DECIDED THAT NEXT MEETING WILL TAKE PLACE IN MOZAMBIQUE.

8. SPANISH SAHARA: GIVEN VENUE OF MEETING, COMMITTEE APPARENTLY DECIDED TO ISSUE RESOLUTION ON SAHARA, WHICH CLEARLY FAR DOWN ON AGENDA. STATEMENT WAS EXTREMELY CONSERVATIVE, HOWEVEU, AND IN EFFECT WENT NO FARTHER THAN TO CALL ON SPAIN TO ALLOW ICJ PROCEDURE TO RUN ITS COURSE AND TO TAKE NO UNILATERAL MEASURES UNTIL NEXT UN SESSION. NO MENTION WAS MADE OF MOROCCAN CLAIMS TO CEUTA AND MELILLA ENCLAVES.

9. COMMENT: OUR INITIAL IMPRESSION IS THAT ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF 25TH LIBERATION COMMITTEE SESSION WERE LIMITED. UNWILLINGNESS OF AFRICAN BRETHREN TO MOVE CLOSER TO GOM POSITION ON SAHARA PROBLEM MUST HAVE BEEN DISAPPOINTING FOR MOROCCANS, BUT AS KING HASSAN'S REMARKS OPENING SESSION (REFTEL) INDICATED, SUCH MOVEMENT HAD NOT REALLY BEEN EXPECTED HERE.
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